Preliminary Amendment Sèrial No.: not yet assigned pg. 3

Cont A3

- 23. The device according to claim 22 further characterized in that the container is sealed from the environment.
- 24. The device according to claim 10 further characterized in that the container is sealed from the environment.

## <u>REMARKS</u>

Applicants hereby amend the specification and claims 3-5 and 9-11, and add new claims 13-24. All amendments are fully supported by the application as originally-filed. The specification amendments are supported, for example by the specification at page 3, lines 3-13 and Figure 2. The claim amendments and new claims serve to eliminate the multiple dependency of the originally filed claims. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-24 are pending in the application.

Applicants respectfully request examination and allowance of all pending claims (i.e., claims 1-24) in due course. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned agent of record.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 1, 2000

Testa, Hurwitz & Thibeault, LLP High Street Tower 125 High Street Boston, MA 02110

Tel. No.: (617) 248-7377 Fax No.: (617) 248-7100

Jamie H. Rose Reg. No. 45,054

Agent for the Applicants